



**CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD
LICENSE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE**



GENERAL BUILDING (B)

Content of the Examination

The General Building (B) Examination is divided into five major sections:

- 1. Planning and Estimating (24%)**
 - Scope of work and code compliance
 - Design and construction error identification
 - Shop drawings, plans, and specifications
 - Field inspection performance
 - Coordination of project
 - Cost estimation for materials, equipment, and labor
- 2. Framing and Structural Components (23%)**
 - Subfloor and wall framing
 - Roof framing
 - Seismic and load requirements
 - Decks
 - Siding and stucco
- 3. Core Trades (26%)**
 - Plumbing
 - Electrical
 - HVAC
 - Concrete
 - Earthwork and surveying
 - Insulation, acoustical, and weatherproofing
 - Roofing
- 4. Finish Trades (19%)**
 - Painting, staining, coating, and interior wall covering
 - Tile and stone
 - Floor covering
 - Cabinetry and millwork
 - Plaster, drywall, and ceilings

- Windows, skylights, and doors
- Landscaping

5. Safety (8%)

- Personnel safety
- Transportation and traffic control
- Environmental safety

Percentages are approximate

Test Site Policy

This is a closed-book examination. No reference materials may be used during the examination. All materials brought to the examination site must be left in an unmonitored area at your own risk.

Test Strategy

This is a multiple-choice examination with four choices per question. Some questions require mathematical computation. Examination questions are written to provide only one BEST answer and are NOT written as trick questions.

There is no penalty for guessing. If you are unsure about a particular question, it is better to try to answer the question than to leave the question blank.

Plenty of time is provided to answer all examination questions, so be sure to read each question and its four choices completely and carefully before selecting the BEST possible answer to the question.

Sample Questions

Below are three typical examination questions
The correct answer is marked with "➡".

1. According to the California Residential Code, what is the MINIMUM allowable width of a residential hallway?
 - a. 44 inches
 - b. 40 inches
 - ➡ c. 36 inches
 - d. 32 inches
2. What is the volume of a cylinder if the diameter equals 3 feet and the length equals 12 feet?
 - a. 36 cubic feet
 - ➡ b. 84.78 cubic feet
 - c. 226.08 cubic feet
 - d. 339.12 cubic feet
3. What is the proper procedure for installing a sink in a countertop?
 - a. Sketch the perimeter of the sink and transfer the sketch to the countertop.
 - b. Trace the perimeter of the sink onto the countertop.
 - c. Cut the appropriately sized sink hole with a hole saw.
 - ➡ d. Place the manufacturer's template onto the countertop and follow the instructions.

All questions are written and reviewed by licensed contractors who are actively working in the field

Resources

*Publisher information for reference books and code is provided below. Other sources for reference books may be found online. **California code books can be viewed online: www.bsc.ca.gov***

2013 California Building Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Code Council.
PHONE: (800) 786-4452
INTERNET: www.iccsafe.org

2013 California Electrical Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. BNI Publications, Inc.
PHONE: (888) 264-2665
INTERNET: www.bni-books.com

2013 California Energy Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Code Council.
PHONE: (800) 786-4452
INTERNET: www.iccsafe.org

2013 California Mechanical Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO).
PHONE: (800) 854-2766
INTERNET: www.iapmo.org

2013 California Plumbing Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO).
PHONE: (800) 854-2766
INTERNET: www.iapmo.org

2013 California Residential Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Code Council.
PHONE: (800) 786-4452
INTERNET: www.iccsafe.org

CalDAG 2013: California Disabled Accessibility Guidebook, An Interpretive Manual and Checklist. Michael P. Gibbens.
PHONE: (805) 870-0900
INTERNET: www.theaccessguy.com

Fundamentals of Building Construction Materials and Methods. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
PHONE: (877) 762-2974
INTERNET: www.wiley.com

Olin's Construction Principles, Materials, and Methods. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
PHONE: (877) 762-2974
INTERNET: www.wiley.com

State of California General Industry & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA) and State of California Construction & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA). 2015. California Code of Regulations, Title 8. Mancomm.
PHONE: (877) 626-2666
INTERNET: www.mancomm.com

Publisher information is current as of 9/15